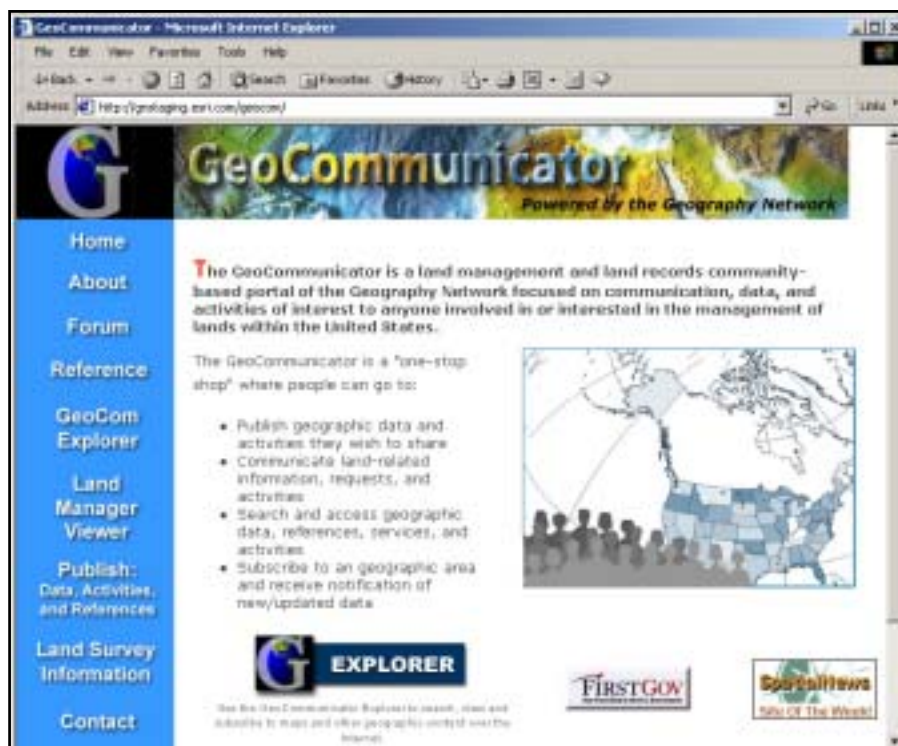




# Welcome to GeoCommunicator



The Bureau of Land Management and the U. S. Forest Service invite you to take a tour of GeoCommunicator.





## Introduction to GeoCommunicator



### GeoCommunicator

A module of the National Integrated Land System Project

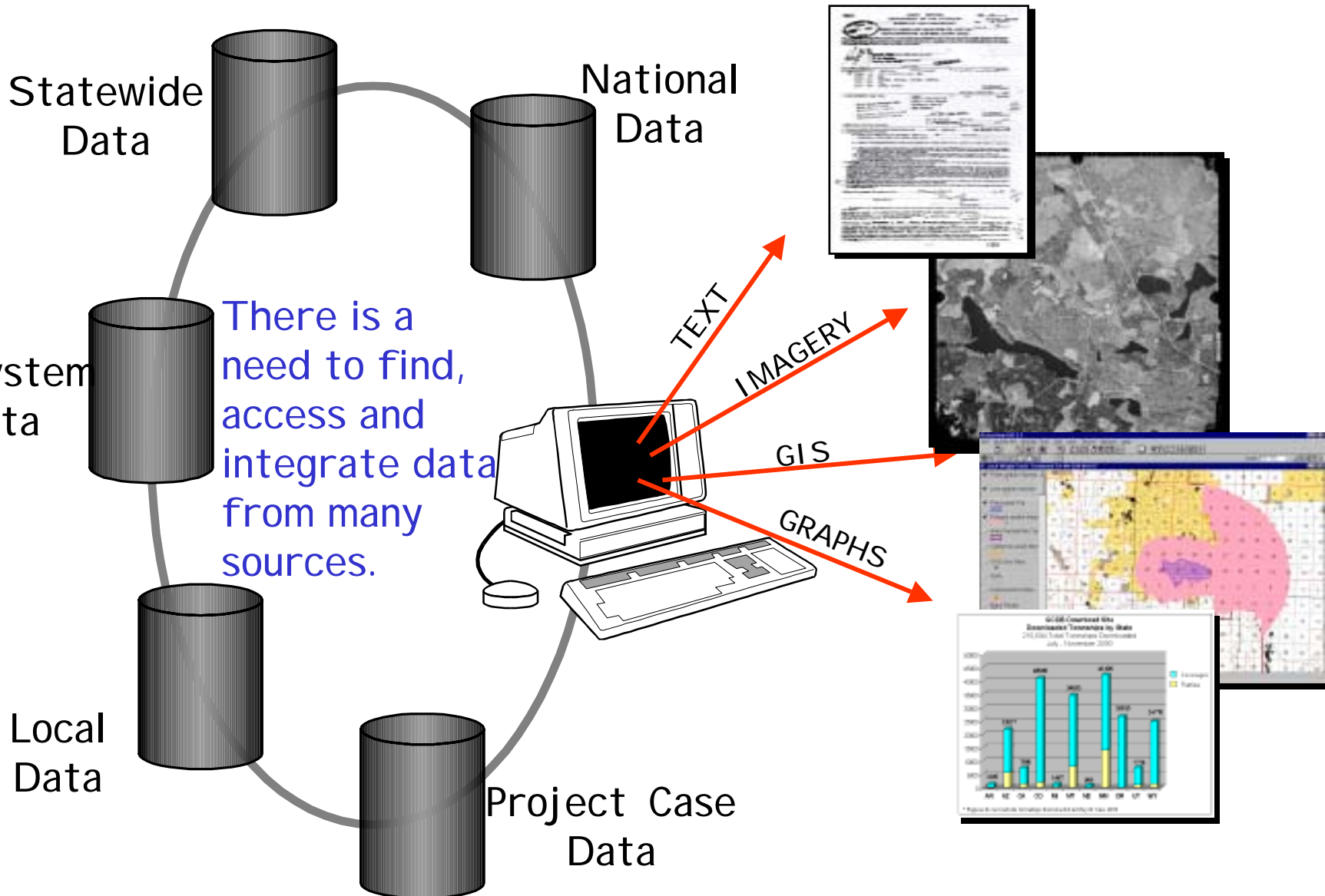
GeoCommunicator is an Internet web portal containing information and searchable links for users and data subscribers and providers with a common interest in cadastral land records, parcel data, and land management activities.

GeoCommunicator was developed by Federal, State, and County governments and private industry.





# GeoCommunicator Source for Finding and Accessing Data

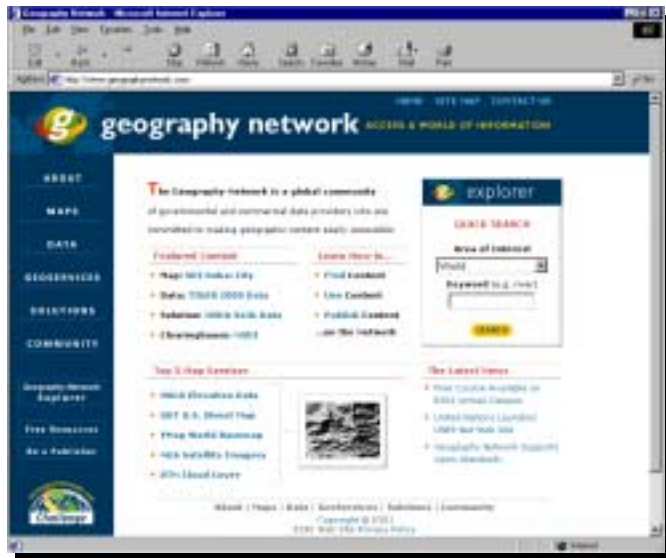




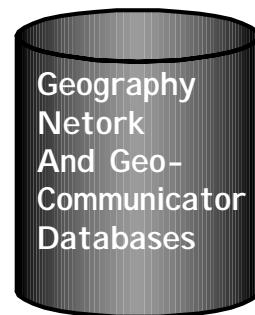
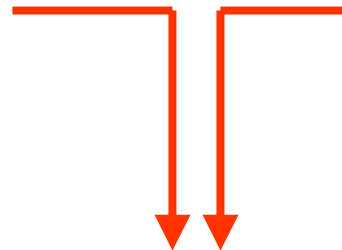
Powered by the Geography Network



GeoCommunicator shares common databases with the Geography Network



Publisher data



Search

Results



All published data is shared between both portals through a common database.





## GeoCommunicator Features



GeoCommunicator is the **land records** version of the Geography Network.

Communicate with others in the land resource community in **Forums**.

Search for Land records related resources in **References**.

Search for map servers, images, data sets, activities, references, clearinghouses, and more in **Explorer**. Subscribe to an area of interest and receive notification in **Explorer**.

Discover federal contact information in **Land Manager Viewer**.

Share your geographic data, maps, activities, and references in **Publish**.

Download PLSS data from the **Land Survey Information** Web site.





## Become a Data Provider



Become a **data provider** and share your geographic data, images, references, activities, and events with others.

GeoCommunicator provides **links** to the “**data source**” reducing the need to download and maintain duplicate data sets.

Use our **on-line publisher** forms to register.

GeoCommunicator - Publisher Registration - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Refresh Home Search Favorites History Mail Size Print Edit

Address <http://www.geocommunicator.gov/geocom/register/profile.cfm> Go

Links [Customize Links](#) [Free Hotmail](#) [Windows](#) [Windows Media](#)

**GeoCommunicator**  
Powered by the Geography Network

Home  
About  
Forum  
Reference  
GeoCom Explorer  
Land Manager Viewer  
Publish: Data, Activities, and References  
Contact  
Learn to: Search, Use, and Publish

**Publisher Registration**

If you would like to publish content through the GeoCommunicator, please enter the registration information requested below. Contact information will be made available to Web and GIS users interested in obtaining the maps or data that you publish in the GeoCommunicator. The contact information provided should be for support representatives that can assist with user inquiries.

Once registered, you will be asked provide specific information (metadata) to describe each map or data set that you wish to publish through the GeoCommunicator. You will be able to supplement or update this information later as necessary.

\*Full Organization Name: (36 characters)

Abbreviated Org. Name: (16 characters)

Organization Profile: (brief description of organization; up to 120 words)

Done Internet



## Share Your Data, Activities, or Events



Publish **links and metadata** to your map or feature service, map image, geographic data set, geoservice, spatial solution, clearinghouse, request for partners, reference or geographic activity.

Once your publisher account is established you can register the link and metadata of your content.

GeoCommunicator - Content Registration - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Refresh Home Search Favorites History Mail Size Print Edit

Address <http://www.geocommunicator.gov/geocon/register/addrecord.cfm> Go

Links Customize Links Free Hotmail Windows Windows Media

**GeoCommunicator**  
Powered by the Geography Network

Home  
About  
Forum  
Reference  
GeoCom Explorer  
Land Manager Viewer  
Publish: Data, Activities, and References  
Contact  
Learn to: Search, Use, and Publish

**Publish New Record**

To publish a new record, first select the type of content that you will be publishing. You will then be presented a custom form to be completed for that type of content. If you are not certain about how to classify your content, please refer to the content descriptions presented below.

Type of Content:

Map Service - Image (ArcIMS) Proceed

Content Descriptions

**Map Service - Image:** A map service is a dynamic map that is published over the Internet. A Geography Network map service is published using Internet Map Server tools that support standard XML communication protocols, including ESRI's ArcIMS 3 software ArcXML or the Open GIS Consortium Web Map Server (WMS). The content of the map image is defined by the publisher, while the user can interactive with the map to change the area of interest and viewing scale. A map service can be published as an image service or a feature service. An image service presents the results of a map request as a Web graphic (i.e., GIF, JPG, or PNG format).

Done Internet



## Forum and Reference



### GeoCommunicator Forum

The **forums** are intended to get you connected to users and publishers in the GeoCommunicator and the Geography Network. You can use this tool to help find certain types of data, make suggestions for content you'd like to see, or get tips on how to publish content yourself.



### GeoCommunicator References

The **reference** tool contains searchable links to related land record sites containing reference material. Such as links to the GCDB home page and FDGC home page.







Search by highlighting  
an area on the **map** —


GeoCommunicator Explorer - Netscape


GeoCommunicator


Powered by the Geography Network

[HOME](#)
[CONTACT US](#)
[HELP](#)

FIND CONTENT

VIEW CONTENT

Search

Township

lat/lon

Favorites

DEFINE SEARCH AREA

☐ Find Place for Search

GO!

X

Q

Q

Hand

Globe

USA



DEFINE SEARCH CRITERIA

Content Developer Type

All Developer Types

Content Type

All Geographic Content

Data Theme

All Data Themes

Keywords

Date Range (YYYY-MM-DD)

From

To

☐ Free Data

SEARCH

Find and View Geographic Content

The GeoCommunicator Explorer enables you to discover and access geographic content. You may also subscribe to a search area and receive notification when new or updated data or activities occur. Use the search tools in the left window to find content for your area of interest. Use the Township & Range tab to search by Meridian, Township, and Range. Use the Favorites tab to search by a saved search criteria or content.

**Define Search Area:** The red box on the search map defines your search area. You can either draw a box on the map around your area of interest or enter a place name and select from the results.

**Define Search Criteria:** To refine your search, you can select the type of developer for the content, the type of content, the data theme, enter a keyword and/or a date range for your search.

**Click Search Button:** Select the Free Data option if you only want to access free data. Search Results are displayed in the View Content area.

If you need help getting started, click [here](#).



## Search For Geographic Data - By Township & Lat/Long

Search for geographic data by selecting the **Township** tab.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator Explorer - Netscape browser window. The main content area is titled "FIND CONTENT" and has tabs for "Search", "Township", "Lat/Long", and "Favorites". The "Township" tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. Below the tabs, there is a section titled "DEFINE TOWNSHIP & RANGE CRITERIA" with the following fields:

- State:
- Principal Meridian:
- Township:
- Township Direction:
- Range:
- Range Direction:

A "Search" button is located at the bottom of this section.

Search for geographic data by selecting the **Latitude and Longitude** tab.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator Explorer - Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The main content area is titled "FIND CONTENT" and has tabs for "Search", "Township", "Lat/Long", and "Favorites". The "Lat/Long" tab is selected and highlighted with a red box. Below the tabs, there is a section titled "DEFINE LATITUDE and LONGITUDE" with the following fields:

- Decimal Longitude:
- Decimal Latitude:

A "Locate" button is located below these fields.

Below the "Locate" button, there is a section titled "DEFINE DEGREES - MINUTES - SECONDS" with the following fields:

- Longitude: Degree:
- Minute:
- Second:
- Latitude: Degree:
- Minute:
- Second:

A "Locate" button is located below these fields.

On the right side of the browser window, there is a section titled "How to Use Latitude and Longitude Search" with the following text:

The latitude/longitude tab lets you search for spatial data at certain geographic coordinates. You can type in Latitude and Longitude coordinates in decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes and seconds (DMS) into the text boxes.

Clicking the Locate button leads you to the Search window, where you can specify more criteria for your search. After you set all criteria click the SEARCH button to view the search results.



## Search for Geographic Data - By Saved Criteria



Search for geographic data by selecting the **Favorites** tab.

Previously saved searches and contents can be used to rerun searches or go to specific content.





## Search For Geographic Data - Set Search Criteria



Refine your search for data with detailed search criteria, such as:

Content Developer Type

Content Type

Data Themes

Keywords

Date Range

GeoCommunicator Explorer - Netscape

HOME CONTACT US HELP

**FIND CONTENT** **VIEW CONTENT**

Search Township, lat/lon Favorites

**DEFINE SEARCH AREA**

☐ Find Place for Search

GO!

**DEFINE SEARCH CRITERIA**

Content Developer Type: All Developer Types

Content Type: All Geographic Content

Data Theme: All Data Themes

Keywords:

Date Range (YYYY-MM-DD): From To

☐ Free Data

**SEARCH**

**Find and View Geographic Content**

The GeoCommunicator Explorer enables you to discover and access geographic content. You may also subscribe to a search area and receive notification when new or updated data or activities occur. Use the search tools in the left window to find content for your area of interest. Use the Township & Range tab to search by Meridian, Township, and Range. Use the Favorites tab to search by a saved search criteria or content.

**Define Search Area:** The red box on the search map defines your search area. You can either draw a box on the map around your area of interest or enter a place name and select from the results.

**Define Search Criteria:** To refine your search, you can select the type of developer for the content, the type of content, the data theme, enter a keyword and/or a date range for your search.

**Click Search Button:** Select the Free Data option if you only want to access free data. Search Results are displayed in the View Content area.

If you need help getting started, click [here](#).



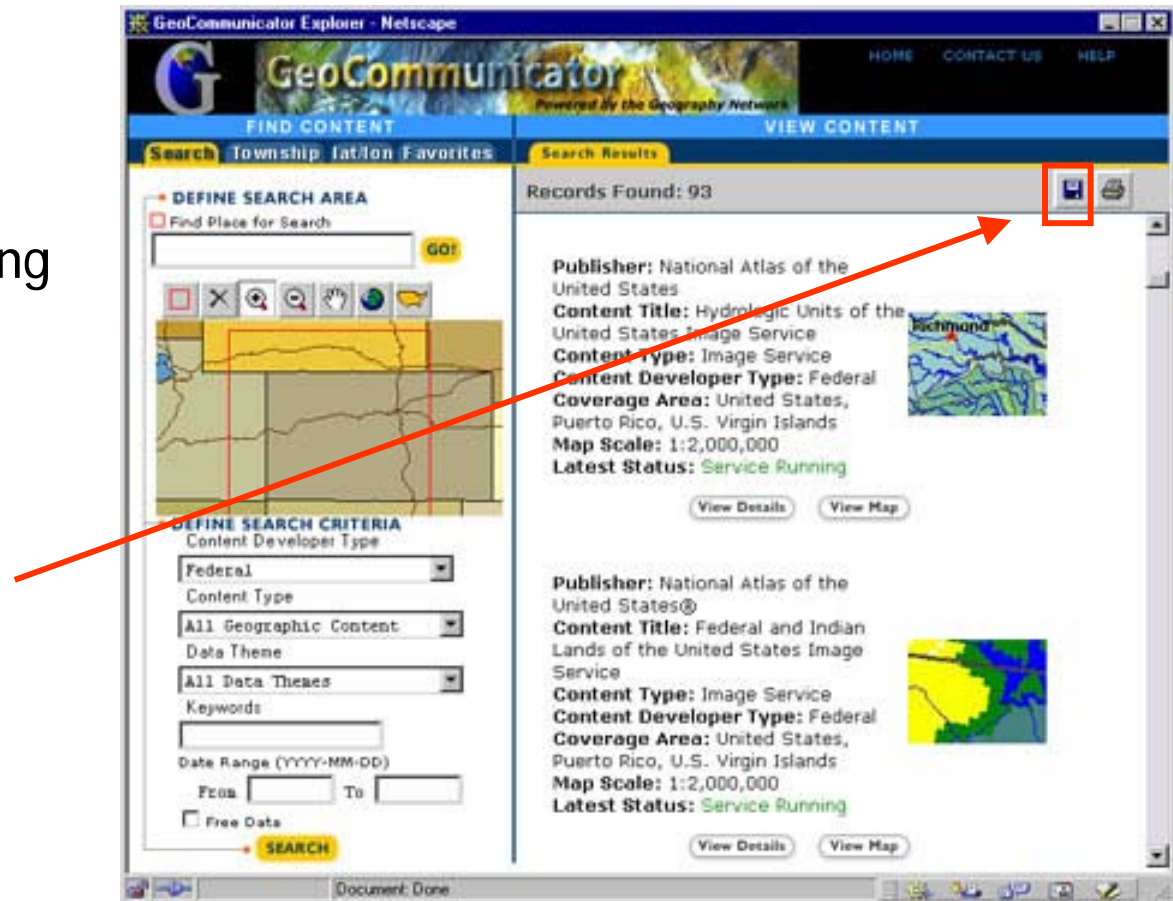


## View Search Results



View **metadata** about data, maps, map services, references, activities, etc. occurring within your selected area of interest.

Save your selection criteria and/or content by pressing the **save** button.





## Save Search Results and Subscribe



Once you have set a user name and password you may **save** your search criteria and/or a specific content.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator website interface. At the top, there is a header with the 'G' logo and the text 'GeoCommunicator'. Below the header, there are two main sections: 'Login' and 'Register'. The 'Login' section has fields for 'Username:' and 'Password:', followed by a 'Login' button. The 'Register' section has fields for 'Username:', 'Password:', and 'E-mail:', followed by a 'Register' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'www.geocommunicator.gov' link and a 'Close' button.

Subscribe to the search area or content and receive **notification by Email** of updates and new content by checking the **Subscribe** box. The saved content will be added to your **Favorites** list.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator website interface. At the top, there is a header with the 'G' logo and the text 'GeoCommunicator'. Below the header, there is a section titled 'Save the search listed below to run later or subscribe for automatic e-mail notification when a record is published or updated in your subscribed favorite.' This section includes a 'Search Criteria for Selected Area:' label, a 'Content Developer Type: Federal' label, and a 'Search Name:' input field. Below these fields, there is a checkbox labeled 'Subscribe for Automatic E-mail Notification' and an 'Add to Favorites' button. An orange arrow points to the checkbox. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'www.geocommunicator.gov' link and a 'Close' button.

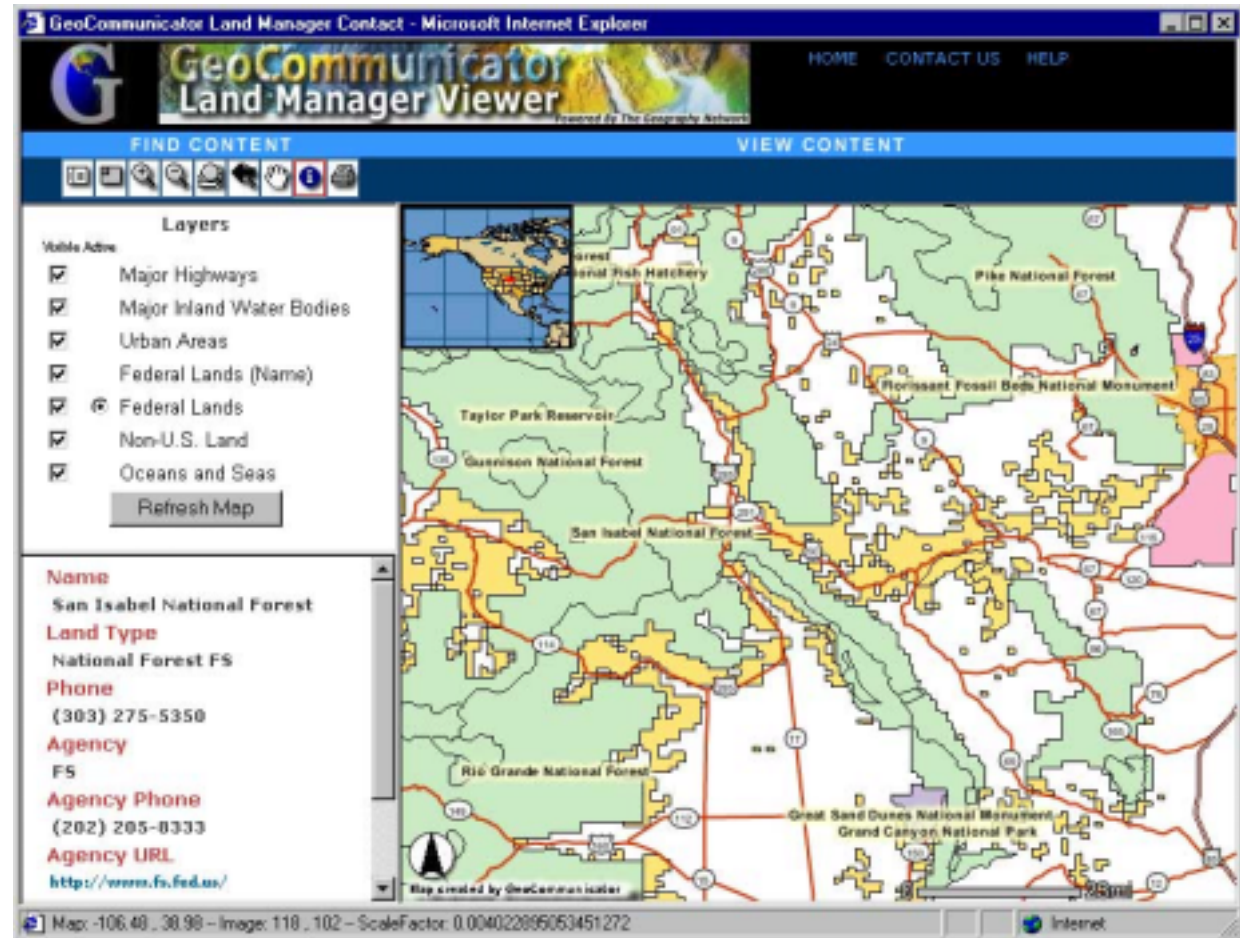


## Land Manager Viewer



The **Land Manager Viewer** allows you to interact with maps containing Federal land boundaries.

You can click on the Federal land and receive information about which agency is responsible for the land and who to contact.

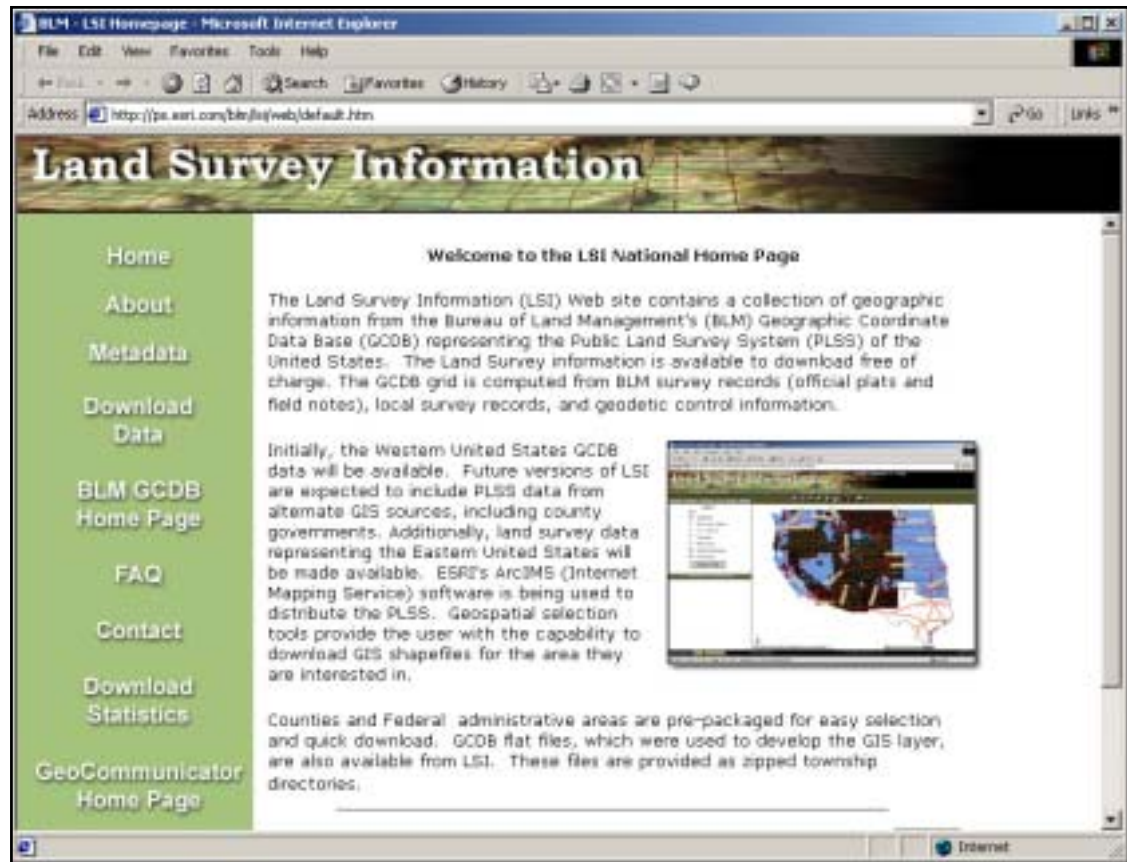




# Land Survey Information



The Land Survey Information Web site allows you to download Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB) data in shapefile format representing the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) of the U.S.



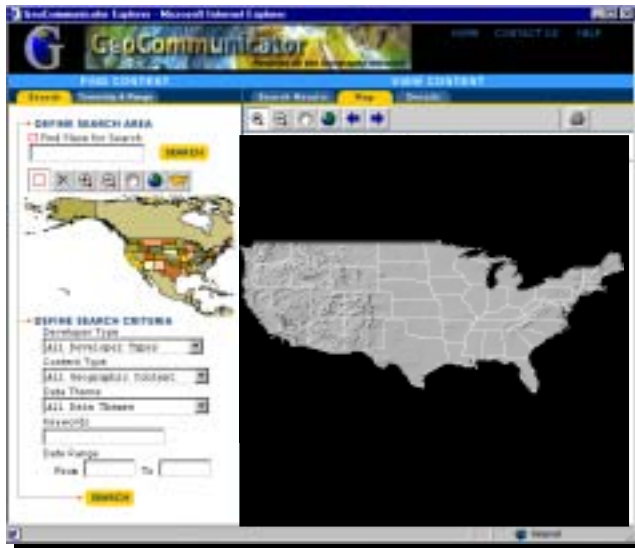




## How BLM Uses GeoCommunicator *(one example)*

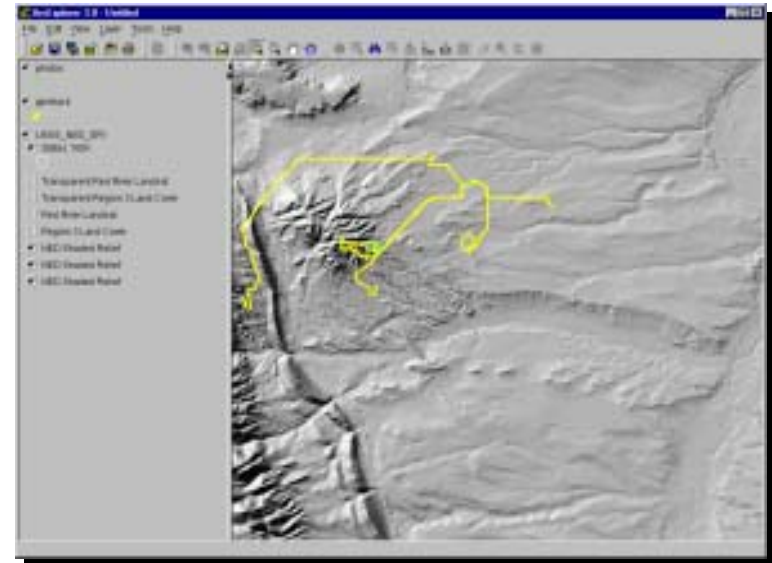


### GeoCommunicator



GeoCommunicator is used to search for multiple data sources. Once data sources are found GeoCommunicator is used to visually review the map service and to obtain the map service URL.

### Arc Explorer



ArcExplorer (a free GIS tool) or any other GIS tool is then used to display multiple data sources and data from the user's own computer.



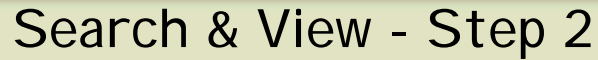
## Search & View - Step 1



From the GeoCommunicator home page click the “[Explorer](#)” button to launch GeoCommunicator Explorer.

Alternatively, you can click on “[GeoCom Explorer](#)” in the left frame.





The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator Explorer website. The top navigation bar includes links for HOME, CONTACT US, and HELP. The main header features the GeoCommunicator logo and the tagline 'Powered by the Geography Network'. The interface is split into two columns: 'FIND CONTENT' on the left and 'VIEW CONTENT' on the right. The 'FIND CONTENT' column contains a search bar, a map of the United States with a red box indicating a search area, and a 'DEFINE SEARCH CRITERIA' section with dropdown menus for 'Content Developer Type', 'Content Type', and 'Data Theme', along with a 'Keywords' field and a 'Date Range' field. A red circle highlights the 'SEARCH' button at the bottom of the 'FIND CONTENT' section. The 'VIEW CONTENT' column displays a list of search results under the heading 'Find and View Geographic Content'.



## Search & View - Step 3

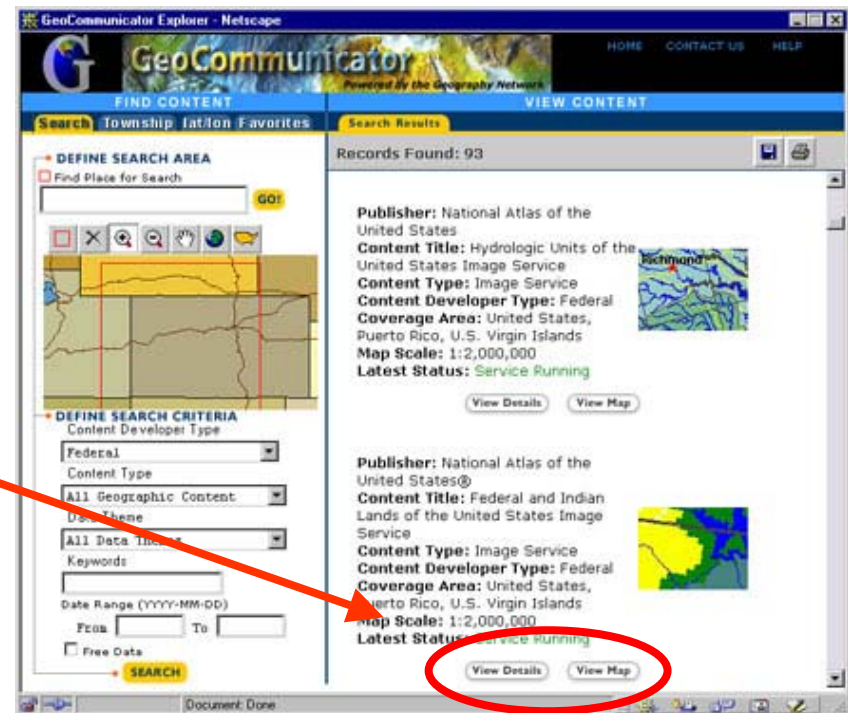


Explore your findings in the  
“[View Content](#)” window.

You can view the map streamed  
directly to your browser by  
selecting “[View Map](#)”.

For more information on the  
content, click on “[View Details](#)”.

In the “[View Details](#)” scroll  
to the bottom of the page  
to obtain the [Map Server  
URL](#) information of your  
findings.





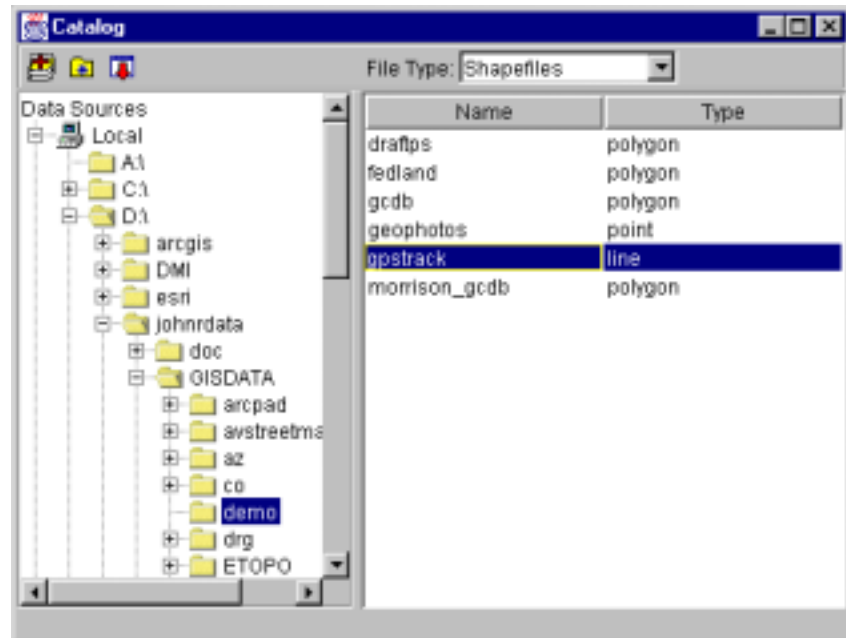


## Integrate Findings - Step 4



Spatial data located using GeoCommunicator can be integrated with your own local spatial data sets.

You will need a GIS viewer that allows URLs as a data source, e.g. ESRI's free GIS browser [ArcExplorer 3.1 Java Edition](#).



To integrate local data, select from the ArcExplorer pull down menu: Layer; Add Layer; Local, then browse your directories for local shape file data.

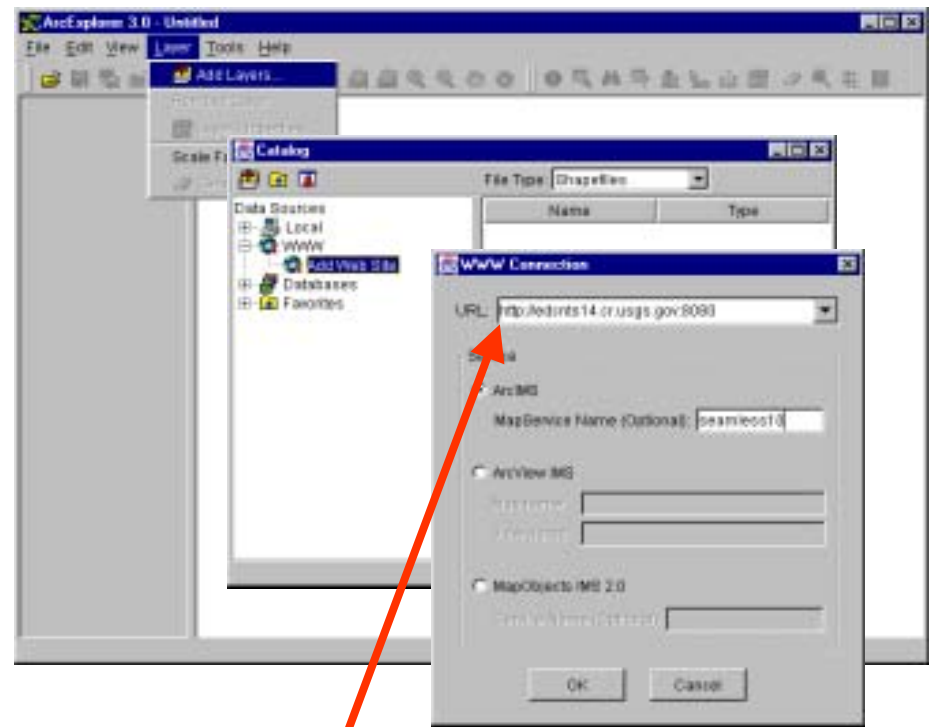


## Integrate Findings - Step 5



Any site that serves data with ArcIMS or WMS can be added as a WWW source and displayed in ArcExplorer Java.

To integrate data from the WWW, select from the ArcExplorer pull down menu, "Add Layers". From the Catalog window, expand the WWW branch and select, "Add Web Site".



Add the Map Server URL from GeoCommunicator.

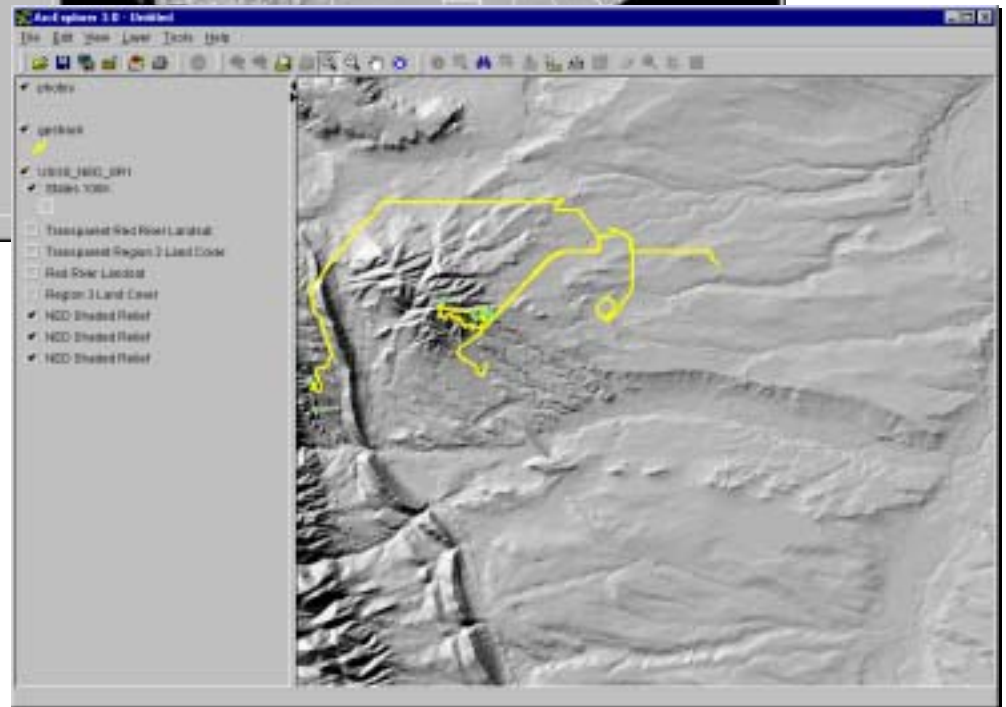
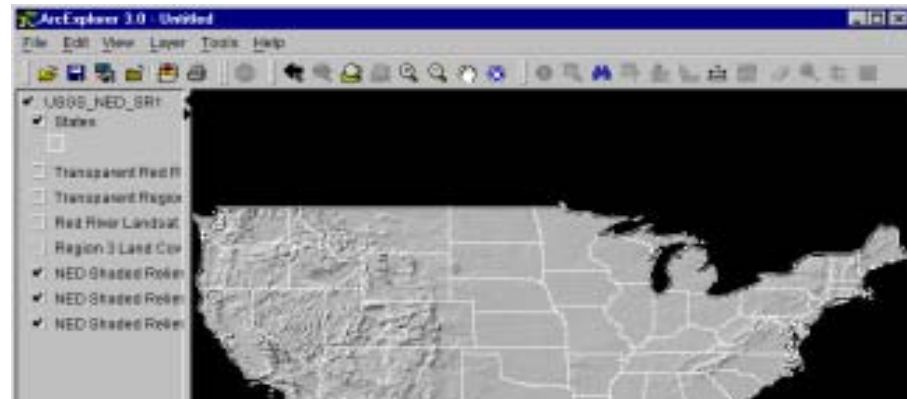


## Integrate Findings - Step 6



WWW-Example: U.S. Geological Survey provides 1:24,000-scale Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data for the conterminous US and 1:63,360-scale DEM data for Alaska. The shaded relief display is derived from NED using a hill-shade technique.

Local data is displayed with shaded relief data served from GeoCommunicator.

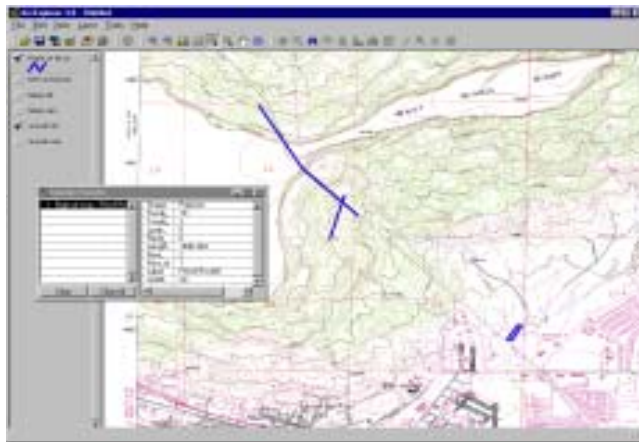




## Other Examples



Local Right-of-way data over a plat map



Local Right-of-way data over a  
Quad map

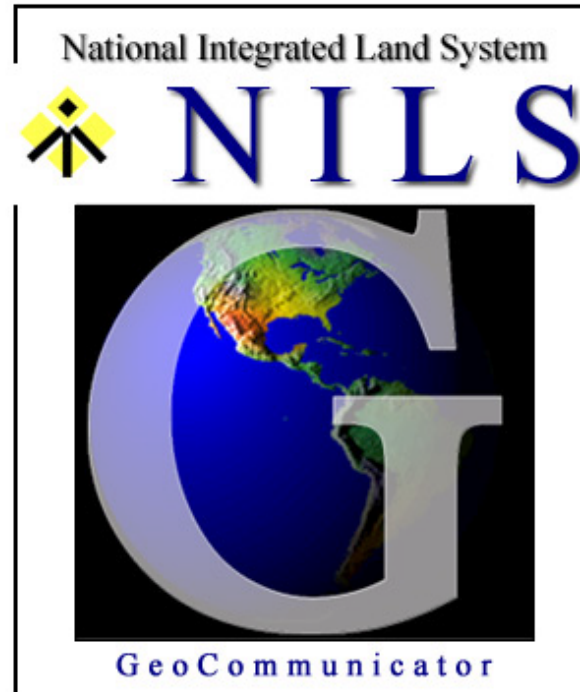


Local Right-of-way data over an  
aerial photograph





## GeoCommunicator Web site



Thank You!

[www.geocommunicator.gov](http://www.geocommunicator.gov)

Nils project Web site: [www.blm.gov/nils](http://www.blm.gov/nils)